



Nicholas C. Howson

Of Counsel - Corporate Department, *New York Office*

1285 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019-6064
telephone 212.373.3019, facsimile 212.492.0019, email nhowson@paulweiss.com

Nicholas C. Howson is Of Counsel to the firm, and previously a partner in the Corporate Department with postings in the firm's Beijing, London and Paris offices, as well as residence in the New York office.

Mr. Howson's practice has focused on a broad range of mergers and acquisitions, project finance, and capital markets transactions. He also represents foreign investors and large multinationals in the establishment of equity and co-operative joint ventures and wholly foreign-owned enterprises throughout China and the purchase and disposition of substantial equity positions in newly-organized Chinese companies limited by shares.

Mr. Howson has a particularly strong background in advising foreign energy concerns in connection with the establishment of power plants in China and in oil and gas upstream exploration, development and production (onshore and offshore) and downstream projects. Most recently, he has advised the ExxonMobil Corporation-led consortium on its bid to participate in the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) sponsored Guangdong LNG Receiving Terminal and Trunkline project and the PETROCHINA sponsored West-to-East natural gas pipeline establishment and financing. In addition, he has extensive experience in China-related capital markets transactions and private equity fund establishments and investments. Mr. Howson represented Credit Suisse in arranging the first issuance by a Chinese state enterprise (SINOCHEM) of commercial paper in the U.S. capital markets, which transaction was consummated in July 1993. Subsequently, in August 1994, he represented Credit Suisse First Boston in the first direct issuance in the U.S. and listing on the NYSE of equity by a Chinese enterprise, SHANDONG HUANENG POWER DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD. In December 1995, he represented a George Soros affiliate in completing the purchase of a 25 percent interest in HAINAN AIRLINES CO., LTD., the first foreign investment in a Chinese airline and one of the first private placements of equity in a Chinese company limited by shares to foreign interests.

Mr. Howson has published widely on Chinese legal topics in journals such as *The Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*, the *UCLA Pacific Basin Law Journal*, *The China Quarterly* (London), *Recht der Internationalen Wirtschaft* (Heidelberg), *The Columbia Journal of Asian Law*, *The China Business Review*, *East Asian Executive Reports*, *International Financial Law Review* and *Infrastructure Finance*, and acted as a consultant to the Ford Foundation (legal education and reform in China) and the UNDP and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (China's company law and corporate governance reform).

Mr. Howson has taught the Chinese investment law course at Columbia Law School in New York in 1996, 1997, 2001 and 2002. He teaches the same course at Columbia Law School in Fall 2003, and Chinese and international law at the Harvard Law School in Spring 2004. A foreign-designated arbitrator for the China International Economic

Nicholas C. Howson

and Trade Arbitration Commission ("CIETAC"), Mr. Howson has served on the board of governors of the American Chamber of Commerce for China.

A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, Mr. Howson serves on the Board of Visitors of the Columbia University School of Law for the 2002-2004 term.

Mr. Howson, who is fluent in Mandarin Chinese and written Chinese, is a 1983 graduate of Williams College. Thereafter, from 1983 to 1985 he was a graduate exchange fellow at Shanghai's Fudan University. He received his juris doctor degree from the Columbia Law School in 1988, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. After spending a further six months in China at Beijing University and the China University of Politics and Law completing research in Qing legal history, he joined Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. Mr. Howson is a native of Quebec, Canada, and a member of the Bar of the State of New York.